

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
Riverside Avenue Site - Removal Polrep

237768



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region II

**Subject:** POLREP #3  
Riverside Avenue Site  
02PC  
Newark, NJ  
Latitude: 40.7670135 Longitude: -74.1593681

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**From:** Paul L. Kahn, On-Scene Coordinator

**Date:** 2/12/2011

**Reporting Period:**

**1. Introduction**

**1.1 Background**

**Site Number:** 02PC

**D.O. Number:**

**Response Authority:** CERCLA

**Response Lead:** EPA

**NPL Status:** Non NPL

**Mobilization Date:**

**Contract Number:**

**Action Memo Date:**

**Response Type:** Time-Critical

**Incident Category:** Removal Action

**Operable Unit:**

**Start Date:**

<b>Demob Date:</b>		<b>Completion Date:</b>	
<b>CERCLIS ID:</b>	NJSFN0204232	<b>RCRIS ID:</b>	
<b>ERNS No.:</b>		<b>State Notification:</b>	
<b>FPN#:</b>		<b>Reimbursable Account #:</b>	

### **1.1.1 Incident Category**

Time-Critical CERCLA Removal Action

### **1.1.2 Site Description**

The Riverside Avenue Site is an abandoned industrial facility on the banks of the Passaic River. Since the early 1900s the Site had been used for many businesses, including a paint manufacturer, a packaging company, and a chemical warehouse. It consists of two abandoned buildings on approximately two acres. The property is owned by the City of Newark and was acquired in tax foreclosure proceedings.

#### **1.1.2.1 Location**

29 Riverside Avenue, Newark, Essex County, New Jersey, between the Passaic River and Mcarter Highway.

#### **1.1.2.2 Description of Threat**

Ten abandoned 12,000-15,000 gallon USTs containing hazardous wastes have been identified on the property. Approximately 100 3,000 -10,000 gallon ASTs have been identified in the buildings, many of which have been sampled for hazardous materials. Two tanks containing an oily wastes have been identified in the basement of one of the buildings. A number of 55-gallon drums and smaller containers have been observed in the buildings. In addition, there are a number of sumps that may contain hazardous substances.

### **1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results**

The preliminary assessment was completed in 2010. Two basement tanks in one building and the sumps of the other building have been sampled for hazardous waste characterization. See Documents Section for results of the site assessment sampling/analytical.

## **2. Current Activities**

### **2.1 Operations Section**

#### **2.1.1 Narrative**

See Profile section.

#### **2.1.2 Response Actions to Date**

On 10/30/09, EPA responded at the request of NJDEP to an oil discharge on the Passaic River in Newark, NJ. The discharge was traced to the Riverside Ave site. NJDEP contained the oil

discharge and secured the release, which was identified as a drainage pipe from the buildings on Site to the bank of the river.

NJDEP and the City of Newark Requested EPA assistance in assessing the Site and performing an emergency removal action to identify and remediate the source of the discharge. On November 9, 2009, the EPA Region 2 Emergency and Remedial Response Division (ERRD) Acting Director verbally authorized a project ceiling of \$250,000, of which \$250,000 is for mitigation contracting to perform a response action.

On 11/11/09, ERRS was mobilized to the Site. The potential for further discharge from the Site into the Passaic River was eliminated by plugging pipes from the buildings that were connected to two tanks identified as the source of the discharge. Two basement tanks and two building sumps were sampled for waste characterization.

On 2/11/2011 OSC Kahn visited the Site for a recon. Excessive amounts of snow and ice-covered floors precluded a full recon from being done.

The OSC has verbally informed outside legal counsel for the City that EPA is initiating a removal action. The OSC has also mailed an Access Agreement to the Director of Housing and Real Estate for signature.

### **2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)**

EPA met with representatives from the City of Newark on the site on 11/09/09 to discuss the history of the site and the City's environmental assessment activities for the property to date. EPA will work with the City of Newark to identify PRPs for the site. During the 2/11/2011 recon the OSC discovered paperwork in a former office area bearing the logo of "Ted Frey Industries" and "Abrachem Logistics", both companies are believed to have operated at this location in the past. However, from prior knowledge at another Superfund site, both of these companies went bankrupt and ceased to exist years ago. The OSC has identified three other PRPs and will work with regional ORC to gather additional information regarding these PRPs.

### **2.1.4 Progress Metrics**

<i><b>Waste Stream</b></i>	<i><b>Medium</b></i>	<i><b>Quantity</b></i>	<i><b>Manifest #</b></i>	<i><b>Treatment</b></i>	<i><b>Disposal</b></i>

## **2.2 Planning Section**

### **2.2.1 Anticipated Activities**

A full CERCLA removal action will be initiated at this Site. In addition, if petroleum is

discovered in any of the tanks the Coast Guard's National Pollution Funds Center (NPFC) will be contacted and an Oil Pollution Act account will be established to remove any petroleum substances.

#### **2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities**

See above.

#### **2.2.1.2 Next Steps**

The OSC has begun drafting an Action Memo to obtain authorization and funds to initiate a second (RV2) Fund-lead removal action pursuant to CERCLA.

#### **2.2.2 Issues**

none

### **2.3 Logistics Section**

TBD

### **2.4 Finance Section**

#### **2.4.1 Narrative**

Removal response work previously performed at this Site was done under what is now an expired ERRS contract. The OSC will select a current ERRS contractor that can accomplish this removal action. The allocated funds under the former ERRS contract have expired and returned to the Region. The budget to be requested for the restart of the removal action remain to be determined.

### **2.5 Safety Officer**

TBD

### **2.6 Liaison Officer**

n/a

### **2.7 Information Officer**

#### **2.7.1 Public Information Officer**

TBD

#### **2.7.2 Community Involvement Coordinator**

n/a

## **3. Participating Entities**

**3.1 Unified Command**

n/a

**3.2 Cooperating and Assisting Agencies**

TBD

**4. Personnel On Site**

None at present time.

**5. Definition of Terms**

n/a

**6. Additional sources of information**

**6.1 Internet location of additional information/reports**

See results of site assessment on Documents Section.

**6.2 Reporting Schedule**

As events dictate.

**7. Situational Reference Materials**

See Documents Section.